



Bringing the County Closer to You!

Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Timothy Firestone, Chief Administrative Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Cherian Eapen, UCAB Chair

March 21, 2014

UCAB Update –

Due to the weather conditions on March 17, the Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board's meeting was cancelled. Their next full board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 28 at 7:00pm. We apologize for any inconvenience you may have experienced.

2014 H2O Summit
Saturday, March 22 9:30am – 4:00pm
1 Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring

The H2O Summit is almost here! Join DEP and local environmental leaders for a full day of activities, speakers and workshops. Best of all - **it's free!** New this year: musicians and mini-workshops on topics such as frogs, edible forests and native plants. We hope to see you there!

Click on [Learn More»](#) or visit <http://www.montgomerycountymd.mygreenmontgomery.org/h2o-summit>.



Montgomery Parks Director Mary Bradford to Retire in June

[Montgomery Parks](#), part of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) announces that Mary Bradford, Director of the Department, will retire this June. Bradford has served as director since February 2006, overseeing more than 35,000 acres of parkland featuring 420 parks; and more than 700 employees. She was responsible for an annual operating budget of \$100 million in tax-supported, revenue-supported or fee-based funds.

To see her accomplishments and other information, visit <http://montgomeryplanningboard.org/blog-news/2014/03/18/montgomery-parks-director-will-retire-in-june/>

Montgomery Parks Athletic Fields Closed Through March 23 Due to Wet Conditions

All [Montgomery Parks](#) athletic fields at local parks and elementary and middle schools are closed through March 23 due to the unusually wet conditions. This includes sports teams. Individuals and/or groups using the fields while they are closed will be subject to fines or risk having permits revoked.

For more information, visit <http://montgomeryplanningboard.org/blog-news/2014/03/20/montgomery-parks-athletic-fields-closed-through-march-23-due-to-wet-conditions>

Health and Human Services Holds Briefing on Fiscal Year 2015 Recommended Operating Budget
Thursday, March 27 6:00pm
Children's Resource Center
332 West Edmonston Drive, Rockville

Department of Health and Human Services Director Uma Ahluwalia and senior leadership staff will brief residents and interested parties on the department's portion of the recommended budget. **Free parking is available.**

To request sign language interpreter services or other assistance to participate in this meeting, call Alma Laxa at 240-777-1211 (voice), 240-777-4575 (TTY) or email to alma.laxa@montgomerycountymd.gov by March 21.

Gilchrist Center: Spring 2014 Program Schedule Now Available

The Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity is offering a wide range of classes to support the community: English as a Second Language (ESL), and English Conversation classes for beginners, intermediate, and advanced learners, Basic Computer I & II for absolute beginners and beginners, Spanish 101 & 102 classes, and Spanish Literacy classes, Citizenship Preparation classes, Job Search Workshop classes, and One-On-One Housing Counseling & Assistance classes to be held at Wheaton Mid-County RSC, Wheaton Library, Germantown, and Gaithersburg Library sites.

To receive a full description of **class schedule and registration dates and times**, visit our [website](#).



Montgomery College:
Frank Islam Athenaeum Symposia Spring 2014 Speaker Series

Lisa Crooms: *USING HUMAN RIGHTS TO ADVANCE OUR COMMON HUMANITY*

Wednesday, March 26 @ 7:00 p.m.
Montgomery College – Germantown Campus
Globe Hall—HighTech Building

Director of the Constitutional Law Center, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, and Professor of Law at Howard University School of Law, Lisa Crooms will explore human rights, both national and international, and she will comment on *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*—the One Book Germantown selection for spring 2014.

(All events are free and open to the public)

Volunteers Needed for Full Scale Emergency Preparedness Exercise!

Saturday, March 28 9:45am – 12:30pm Damascus High School
25921 Ridge Road, Damascus

(Mandatory registration and briefing at 9:45am; exercise begins at 10:00am)

Montgomery County will be testing our capability to respond to a specific health emergency during a **Full Scale Exercise**. We need 100+ volunteers to act as “residents” to drive through a distribution center. All players must attend a short briefing and sign a General Volunteer Registration Form and/or a Driver Volunteer Registration Form prior to the start of the exercise. Any participant under the age of 18 must have a parent sign for them. Two hours of Student Service Learning hours may be earned by Montgomery County Students who participate.

Register at <http://mdchhs.com/forms/montgomery-county-cities-readiness-initiative-full-scale-exercise>

Leggett Launches “MOVE” Program to Fill Existing, Vacant Office Space By Attracting New Life Sciences, IT, Cybersecurity & Green Technology Businesses to Montgomery County

Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett today announced the latest County initiative to continue support for the County’s innovation economy. The MOVE (**M**ake **O**ffice **V**acancies **E**xtinct) Program is designed to attract life sciences, IT, cybersecurity and green technology businesses to Montgomery County. These are the technology-based sectors critical to the County’s economic future.

The innovative MOVE program came out of engagement by the Montgomery County Department of Economic Development (DED) with the local real estate sector over the past year. It is a creative and proactive way to attract innovative businesses to the County while reducing Class A and B office vacancies.

For details about the program, see the press release at

http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/apps/News/press/PR_details.asp?PrID=13499

Volunteers Needed for Transit Advisory Group

Are you a fan of Ride On? Become a member of Ride On’s Transit Advisory Group. If you are a frequent Ride On user, live in Montgomery County and want to serve on the advisory panel, send a letter of interest by Friday April 15 with answers to the questions included [here](#) to:

Division of Transit Services
Transit Advisory Group
101 Monroe Street, 5th Floor, Rockville, Maryland 20850

You may also submit it via email to: mcdot.tag@montgomerycountymd.gov. *Questions? Call 240-777-5800.*

Saturday, March 29, 2014

11 am - 2 pm

Ovid Hazen Wells Park

12001 Skylark Road, Clarksburg, MD 20871



Join us for a FREE Family fun day

Fly Kites

Bring your own picnic or box lunch

Toast marshmallows with the Little Bennett Camp Staff

Kids Art Projects and Games

Discover Local Businesses, Clubs, and Associations

Bring a canned food item, used eyeglasses, or hearing aid to donate to local charities and receive a raffle ticket to enter and win prizes from local sponsors.

Clarksburgkites@gmail.com

Sponsored by Montgomery County Department of Parks
and the Clarksburg Foundation

Pepco Providing 2,000 Free Trees to MD and DC Customers
<http://www.pepco.com/welcome/news/releases/archives/2014/article.aspx?cid=2498>

The Preservationist Returns

After a six-year hiatus, the Historic Preservation office is pleased to present their new electronic version of *The Preservationist* newsletter. To learn more and to subscribe, visit

<http://montgomeryplanning.org/historic/newsletters/index.shtm>

Don't forget the Shuttle! – Ride On Route Serving Clarksburg

A new Ride-On bus route (Route 94) began providing residents another transit option on January 13, 2014. The bus runs Monday through Friday from Gateway Center Drive to Clarksburg Road, then on Snowden Farm Parkway to Little Seneca Parkway to Meadow Mist Road and then on to Skylark to Ridge Road and then directly to the Germantown MARC station.

For a schedule and map, visit www.rideonbus.com

**Ride On's Annual Food Drive to be Held Week of April 6;
Donate Food and Take Ride On for Free**

Ride On bus passengers in Montgomery County can help needy families and receive free bus rides by donating canned or nonperishable food during Ride On's annual food drive from Sunday, April 6 through Saturday, April 12. Or, those who do not ride the bus but wish to donate food can participate by giving their donations to a bus operator at any Ride On bus stop. Food collected through the drive goes to Manna Food Center, which feeds over 3,600 hungry families a month.

Passengers who transfer buses will need an additional food donation to ride free on the second bus.

Checks made out to Manna Food Center will also be accepted. Writing in "Ride On" on the "For" or "Memo" line in the lower left corner of a check will make it easier to track the success of the program.

For more information, visit http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/apps/News/press/PR_details.asp?PrID=13501. For bus stop locations or bus schedules, call 311 or TDD/TTY 301-251-4850. Route and timetable information is also available on Ride On's web site at www.rideonbus.com.

For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:

County Council <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/cshtml.asp?url=/content/council/news/news.asp>

Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/departments/news_releases/

Also check out the latest from:

Department of Public Libraries <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/libraries/index.asp>

Department of Recreation <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/rectmpl.asp?url=/content/rec/index.asp>

Department of Transportation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html>

Department of Environmental Protection <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/deatmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/dephome/index.asp>

Department of Permitting Services <http://permittingervices.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/general/Home.aspx>

Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>